

Freeport McMoRan Inc.

February 1, 2017

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: ET Docket No. 15-26, RM-11666, ET Docket No. 11-90, RM-11555, ET Docket No. 10-28, WT Docket No. 11-202, *Radar Services in the 76-81 GHz Band*
*Ex Parte Communication***

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing in support of fixed radar operations in the 76-77 GHz band

Freeport McMoRan Inc. is a mining company with operations worldwide. We operate multiple open pit and underground mines in the United States of America. As a company involved in heavy industry, we are always striving to improve the safety of the general public and our employees. Monitoring slopes, steep grades and wall faces for movement and deformities is paramount in achieving these improvements. The equipment being developed to operate in the 76-77 GHz range offers portability and higher resolution than the current equipment we are using operating in the 17 GHz range. We see promise in the development of this new equipment and want to support the effort.

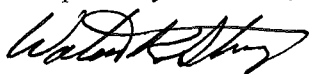
Radar technology is widely used in open pit mine operations with the aims to increase mine safety and contribute to increase productivity and efficiency. The development of fixed radar in 76-77GHz, thanks to its compactness and high resolution performance, would allow us to extend the use of radar technology to underground mine operations, which currently is lacking of a breakthrough technology for wall stability monitoring.

The high resolution of 76-77GHz would also allow the use of such a radar technology for open pit mine slope stability monitoring, in order to measure in advance submillimeter movement of small sized rock to provide early warning in case of rock fall precursor.

The availability of fixed radar in 76-77GHz would increase the safety in open pit and underground mine operations and would be an additional equipment to control the risk of injury and equipment damage from rock falls, wall and slope failures.

For these reasons we urge the FCC to permit 76-77 GHz fixed radar as proposed in the NPRM.

Respectfully submitted,



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